

The Carolina DX Association

WEEKLY DX NET 147.36 AT 0130Z
DX INFO REPEATERS 147.36 BOONE
147.18 CHARLOTTE

April 1987

Scott Douglass, K2SD, Editor

- CURRENT DX ACTIVITY -

Thanks to QRZ DX, N4ZC, The Long Island DX Bulletin, and WORLD RADIO.

SA0A has been heard and worked with a much better signal since he received better equipment: 7004 at 0644Z, 14005 at 1900Z, and 21005 at 1600Z. **5X5GK** reported on 3780 at 0412Z. **7Q7LW** on 7002 at 1410. **9J2BO** was on 7006 at 0130, and even his best friends wouldn't tell him..

Some question about **A51PN** on 20 SSB around 1400Z - legit? **A92BE** on 3796 at 0340Z. **BY0AA** (Zone 23) - Opr. Zhang operates from Sinkiang Province, and has been working the USA on 14025 between 0200Z and 0300Z.

CY0SAB operation from Sable Island is planned by **VE1CBK** sometime during April. Diving fans should keep their ears open for **F6HHV/MM** who is operating aboard the famous research ship **CALYPSO**. **FR5AI** is reported active from Tromelin, and is planning to QSY to Europe in the near future. **FT8ZA** on Amsterdam and St. Paul, reported on 7014 at 1200Z.

The Cocos Island expedition planned by **HP1XOR/TI9** has been postponed until late 1987. However, another report says it may take place in mid-April. Stay tuned for further rumors. Reports keep coming in from countries where Amateur Radio is not currently allowed....latest is **HZ1TA/60**. Work them now and worry later.

If you did not work **N4ZC** in the distant past when he went to Kure (like I didn't) we should get another chance with **KH6LW/KH7** and

KH6JEB/KH7 - try 14199 at 0300Z. Some more rumors, this time about Desecheo Island - the **NP4TB/KP5** operation which had been planned for late 86/early 87 is now on for April 17-19, or may have been cancelled.

Aland Island is going to be invaded by more **DL7**'s than I care to imagine - **DL7AB**, **DL7IC**, **DL7AIB**, **DL7AKC**, **DL7ALM**, **DL7ANR**, AND **DL7ANW** will be on April 7-25 on all bands, CW/SSB/RTTY. Although it's getting a bit late in the season, **OX3KD** has been worked on 160 meters, weekends, 1800-1850 at 2100Z thru 2400Z. North Korea activity - **P9LZ** reported on 7005 working **JA**'s and **W6**'s.

ON7IP/ST on 14160 ETDX net. Benin (TY) activity: **3X0HSH/TY** on 14160 at 2100Z, also **DK8PR/TY** has been heard. **UA1ODX** (Franz Josef Land) on 40 CW at 0100-1300Z, and on 20 CW at 2300Z. See the operating aid included in this issue to help you sort the USSR callsigns out - there always to be confusion about **FJL**, and there needn't be. **VK9LGE** reported on from Lord Howe, but it is felt that it's really **VK9LM** who always sends a "dit dit" at the end of his call.

VU2RVI may be on from Nicobar in mid-April. Don't let the fast rates swamp you. The planned radio silence for **YB** amateurs was postponed until after the **CQWPX** Phone contest. It should be over on May 15. **ZD7AF** is a new operator on St. Helena. **ZK3PM** is returning to Tokelau, and should now be active.

That's it for this month - **CDXA** members should note the good stuff they hear, and let me know! Thanks!

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VOLUME

CHARLOTTE HAMFEST WRAPUP

The Charlotte Hamfest proved very successful to the CDXA - we all had a chance to get together at the CDXA booth, quite a few members found some good bargains at the flea market, and our raffle of the nine position remote antenna switch was a BIG success - it was the topic of much conversation and many folks "took a chance" on it. Thanks to N4ZC and K4MQG for the idea....it did even better than the famous clock we had as a prize last year.

The CDXA was also responsible for what had to be the best-attended and most entertaining forum in quite a few years - WB8MAZ's slide show of the XF4DX trip. If you missed it, you should go to Dayton to catch it, or I hope we can sweet talk Don into bringing it back to Charlotte in the future. In addition, Roger Burt gave a contest forum and presented N4ZC's tips for contest success. These tips will be the subject of a future newsletter article.

The CDXA saturday evening gala at the Royal Palace was well attended, and featured some fine food and fellowship. The highlight of the evening was the shrimp, and the lowlight was trying to take N4ZC's DX Quiz. Many egos were deflated in a rapid fashion - thank goodness for the final question (In which year did you receive your first licence?), so at least some of us did not score a zero. We will continue with a new quiz at our next meeting.

NEW CDXA AWARDS PLANNED

The CDXA officers would like to start a new set of awards for our members. These will be handed out at our annual Christmas get-together and will be voted on by all members in October. We will have a number of awards, and invite each members suggestion for the kind of awards to present. For starters, there will be a "Ham of the Year", and also an award for the CDXA members who

is "Most Helpful" in calling out the most DX on the Club repeaters. Members are asked to start thinking about who they would like to vote for, and what other awards we should have.

TOWER SAFETY

by

John Hawkins, K5NW

(From April 1983 QRZ DX)

Country singer Tom T. Hall has a song out about younger women, faster horses, older whiskey, and more money. Now there is merit to be found in all four, but sometimes DXers just don't think like normal people. Spring has just arrived and this is one of those times that a DXer's mind might wander. When the DXer makes that first spring tour around the back yard, his XYL is probably thinking that he is looking for the new sprigs of green grass or tree buds, but he is most likely reviewing all those big plans for new antennas made back in the winter.

Now, no DXer worth his salt would ever forget younger women or more money, but surely for some, at least, faster horses and older whiskey are replaced by more elements and longer booms. Yep, spring is here and spring is the time for antenna work - so we here at QRZ DX thought that some tower safety reminders would be in order.

Always inspect you safety belt for wear or damage before use. Especially the first time this year.

Never rely on "sound" alone when snapping the lanyard onto the D-ring. Always look down to see that it is latched to the D-Ring and not to a rope or coax.

Always position the lanyard release to the inside so that it won't be accidentally released.

Never climb when ill or tired. Tower climbing is very strenuous, especially early in the season.

(Continued on page 3)

Never place yourself in a position where your safety belt can slip over the top of the tower or mast. If you are that high, then there is nothing to grab on to if you do get into trouble. You are too high, so step down a step or two.

Never climb when the weather is unsettled. It may not be lightning at your QTH yet, but it has to start some place, and your tower might be that place.

Don't put antenna hardware in your mouth. One local had a mouth full of hardware and was looking up when he accidentally swallowed some of it. Things got real scary real quick.

If you ever do find yourself in trouble on a tower, just stop, hang on real tight, and look around and assess the situation. Chances are, the situation is not quite as bad as you first thought.

Never try to lift more than you can while on a tower. Your strength is much less on a tower because you are never standing upright and you are never fully relaxed. Don't bite off more than you can chew. Let the gin-pole rope do the heavy work!

Mainly, just use common sense, think before you move and don't panic. I hope your plans work out and I'll be thinking of you when I belt on at 100 feet next month because you can bet that my thoughts are already on those longer booms and more elements.

THE LOW BAND DXers PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - by Mike Crabtree AB0X

(Reprinted from the Kansas City DX club)

If you want to be a low band DXer, raise your hand and repeat after me:

I (insert your call) pledge allegiance solely to the low bands, forsaking all other frequencies. In my never-ending quest for DX, with

full knowledge that I will forfeit all aspects of a normal life. Therefore, I will forsake any sort of family life, a normal sex life, and all other recreational activities or commitments that might interfere with low band DXing.

I also pledge to fill my back yard with as many wire, vertical, and listening antennas as possible.

I accept the burden of never having enough radials in the ground, and I am fully aware that I will be perpetually burying wire in my yard as I am physically able.

I promise to disavow all guilt or wrongdoing when TVI complaints are received from my neighbors.

I further pledge to endanger my job on a regular basis as a result of countless hours of lost sleep spent tuning the low bands in the middle of the night.

Lastly, I pledge to spend the rest of my amateur life listening to static and QRM, and calling stations I can't hear.

Congratulations! You are now a Low Band DXer!!

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USSR OPERATING AID

Here's a handy desktop operating aid that will help you keep track of the USSR stations. This aid is by Tom Frenaye, K1KI, and appeared in **RADIOSPORTING** magazine.

This applies for calls beginning with an "R" or "U"

1) Which Russian Republic is it?

You can tell by the letter before the number.

A-N-V-W-Z	Russia	(UA1-2-3-4-6-8-9-0)	RW9YY UV1AA UZ1ZZZ
B-T-Y	Ukraine	(UB UT UY)	UY5UB RB7GA UB4FWW
C	Byelorussia	(UC)	RC2WW UC1WWA
D	Azerbaijan	(UD)	UD6CN RD6DA UD7DWB
F	Georgia	(UF)	UF5FZ UF6QQ RF0FWW
G	Armenia	(UG)	RG6GA UG7GWC
H	Turkman	(UH)	RH8EA UH8EAA UH9HWA
I	Uzbek	(UI)	UI8ZAC RI0SA UI9AWA
J	Tadzhik	(UJ)	UJ8JAS RJ8JA UJ9SWB
L	Kazakh	(UL)	UL4OF UL7KAC RL8PYL
M	Kirghiz	(UM)	UM8NA UM9MWA
O	Moldavia	(UO)	UO5OAA RO5OR UO4OWA
P	Lithuania	(UP)	UP2BAS RP2PP UP1BZA
Q	Latvia	(UQ)	RQ2AB UQ1GWW
R	Estonia	(UR)	UR2RLR RR2RR UR1RWW

2) Which DXCC country is it?

Same as the Republic, except the Russian Republic.

For the Russian Republic (only) the number in the call sign tells you the country:

2	Kaliningrad	UA2FC UZ2FWA
1-3-4-6	European Russia	RA3AR UZ6PWW
9-0	Asiatic Russia	UW0BF RZ0AWW

There is no way to tell Franz Josef Land calls except by the specific callsign! They are in the European USSR, have a "1" in the callsign, and an "O" after the number, but so do many non-FJL stations. RZ1OWA RA1OT

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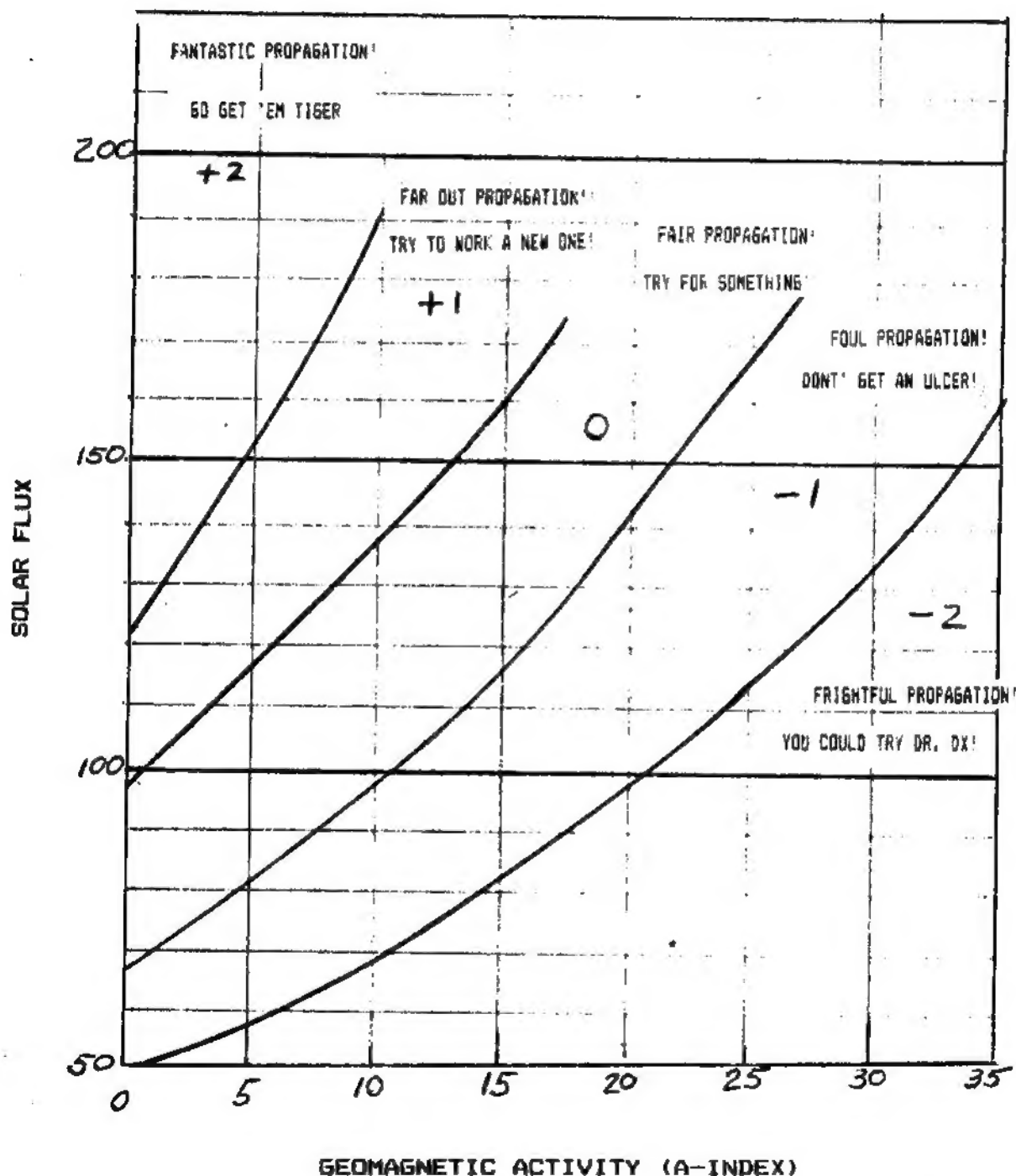
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PROPAGATION AID

Henry Elwell, N4UH, sent a kind note and remarked how hard it can be to get input for a club newsletter. In correspondence with NM7M, he came across the chart which is printed on page 5. It's a great graphical representation of the propagation topics discussed in recent issues of this bulletin, so many thanks to "Uncle Henry" for sharing it with us!

PLOT SOLAR FLUX AND GEOMAGNETIC ACTIVITY INDEX AS BROADCAST HOURLY BY WWV BEGINNING AT 1818 UTC. POINTS FALLING IN THE UPPERLEFT CORNER OF THIS SCATTER-PLOT CORRESPOND TO GOOD HF BAND CONDITIONS, WHILE POINTS IN THE LOWER RIGHT REPRESENT POOR CONDITIONS. THE SCATTER-PLOT IS DIVIDED INTO FIVE REGIONS REPRESENTING DIFFERENT OBSERVED BAND CONDITIONS, LABELED FROM +2 (EXCELLENT) TO -2 (POOR). A FULLER DISCUSSION OF THE USE OF THIS CHART IS GIVEN IN THE QRP QUARTERLY, JANUARY 1986 PAGE 11.

QRPER'S PROPAGATION PREDICTOR BY BOB BROWN NM7M



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Kenwood TS 930S 9 Band Transceiver
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INDXA Reminder

Here's an order blank if you are
interested in joining INDXA.

International DX Association

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